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prevails among professed Christians. If the Boys' Brigade movement should succeed in winning large numbers of boys to the Church and infusing into their minds this perverted notion of Christianity, it would be almost if not quite as well to leave them where they are. If fighting and bloodshed, if hatred and killing of enemies personal or national, if the passion and frenzy of the battle-field are right and Christian, then let the Brigade movement go on by all means. If the result of the movement shall be, in after years, to give a deeper insight into and fuller acceptance of the spirit of the sermon on the mount, which is the very essence of the moral teachings of Christ, without the practice of which we do not see how any one can be a true and complete Christian, we shall be the first to withdraw what we have said about the deceitful and dangerous tendencies of the Brigade and to speak in praise of what it has accomplished.

FORCED MILITIA SERVICE IN CONNECTICUT.

The Military Commission of the Connecticut House of Representatives reported on the 20th of April a bill proposing radical changes in the military law of the State. The following are the principal provisions of the bill:

The military enrolment of all male citizens between eighteen and forty-five years of age is to be made in the respective towns in the month of January and reported to the adjutant-general within fifteen days.

The following enrolled persons shall be exempt from military duty on the payment of two dollars annually in lieu thereof: Those suffering from mental or physical disabilities, those who served in the war and were honorably discharged, volunteer firemen, warden or deputy warden of State prison, those who served in the militia or as a fireman for five years.

A judge-advocate-general is added to the governor's staff, and the governor may appoint on his staff as an inspector any regular army officer detailed at his request.

It is provided that the National Guard may consist in time of peace of forty-eight companies of infantry, one signal corps, one battery of artillery, one machine-gun battery, and a hospital corps, and a band attached to each regiment, all organized in one brigade. The governor may increase the force at his discretion in case of war, insurrection or imminent danger thereof. The term of first enlistment is changed from five to three years; subsequent enlistments may be for two years.

A judge-advocate, a commissary of subsistence and two orderlies are added to the brigadier-general's staff. There is created a major for each battalion of infantry, who has an adjutant and a sergeant-major on his staff. Congressional district lines of organization of regiments are not retained, but the companies may be located where the judgment of the governor, adjutant-general and brigade commander may dictate. The law provides for the building of a State armory in each town having two or more companies.

We do not know what action the Connecticut House will take on the bill, but the bare fact of its being pro-

posed ought to awaken such an outburst of opposition among the citizens of Connecticut as to effectually prevent the measure from making any progress. Enforced military service, even in the form in which it is here proposed, is a long step toward the adoption of the conscriptive, standing army system of the old world.

Condemnation of the senseless European system with its crushing burdens on the people is nearly universal among thoughtful Americans, and yet it seems that we are to stand idly by and see militarism make one inroad after another on our freedom until at last we shall be bound hand and foot. If those who have been much abroad and seen the dreadful curse of the European forced militarism dare to utter a word of warning they are usually met with indifference. They are told that there is no danger here. America would not tolerate such a thing. We cannot believe that the citizens of Connecticut will be blind to the ultimate dangers lurking behind the proposed measure. As Americans, as lovers of civil and religious freedom, they ought to protest against the beginnings of a system which, if introduced in our States, will be productive of incalculable moral and material mischief in the years to come.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM OF THE FIFTH UNIVERSAL PEACE CONGRESS.

The following preliminary program for the Chicago Peace Congress has been prepared by the Committee on Arbitration and Peace of the World's Congress Auxiliary and the Committee on Organization appointed by the Peace Societies. It will remain open for revision for a few weeks. The Committees hope to be able to publish it completed, with names of officers and speakers, early in June. In addition to the speakers selected to prepare papers on the different topics, provision will be made for discussion, in short speeches, of the various subjects. During the week of the Congress there will be special conferences, or Sectional Meetings, for the discussion of particular phases of the peace propaganda. The delegates of the Peace Societies will hold several such Conferences.

The Congress will be held in the Memorial Art Palace, beginning on the 14th of August and lasting one week.

PROGRAM.

I.

OPENING SESSION.

- (a.) Addresses of Welcome.
- (b.) Address by the President of the Congress.
- (c.) Responses by Delegates from Different Nations.

II.

PEACE SOCIETIES AND CONGRESSES.

- (a.) Origin of Peace Societies; Principles and Purposes of their Foundation.